

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing a video signal, comprising the steps of:

(A) receiving said video signal comprising (i) a first segment having a series of frames, wherein (a) each of said frames of said first segment has a first region and a second region, and (b) said first region and said second region of said first segment define a first signature for each of said frames of said first segment and (ii) a second segment having a series of frames, wherein (a) each of said frames of said second segment has a first region and a second region, and (b) said first region and said second region of said second segment define a second signature for each of said frames of said second segment;

(B) modifying each of said first signatures of said frames of said first segment ~~from said first signature~~ to a third signature, wherein said first segment comprises a non-commercial program; and

(C) modifying each of said second signatures of said frames of said second segment ~~from said second signature~~ to a fourth signature.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second signature is equal to said fourth signature.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein (i) said second segment comprises a commercial program and (ii) said signature modification is performed to suppress the detection of commercials in said video signal.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein transitions between said first and second segments are not detectable.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 1, wherein said modifying in steps (B) and (C) comprises:

(i) scaling each of said frames to a first size, wherein after ~~said scaling step~~ each of said frames said first region of each ~~frame~~ of said scaled frames is equal to a size of said first region and said second region combined ~~frame~~ prior to ~~said scaling each of said frames step~~ and (ii) cropping each of said scaled frames, wherein said cropped frames comprise only said first region of said scaled frame and said first region of said scaled frame ~~equaling~~ is equal to the size of each of said frames prior to ~~said scaling each of said frames steps~~.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 5, wherein said first size fills said first region.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said video signal comprises a digital video signal.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said first region comprises an active region.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said modifying in steps (A) and (B) comprises:

obscuring a start of an active video in at least one of said frames.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein:
step (C) comprises modifying said frames of said second segment from said second signature to said first signature.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing a video signal comprising:

means for receiving said video signal comprising (i) a first segment having a series of frames, wherein (a) each of said frames of said first segment has a first region and a second region, and (b) said first region and said second region of said first segment define a first signature for each of said frames of said first segment and (ii) a second segment having a series of frames, wherein (a) each of said frames of said second segment has

10 a first region and a second region, and (b) said first region and
said second region of said second segment define a second signature
for each of said frames of said second segment;

means for modifying each of said first signatures of said
frames of said first segment ~~from said first signature~~ to a third
15 signature, wherein said first segment comprises a non-commercial
program; and

means for modifying each of said second signatures of
said frames of said second segment ~~from said second signature~~ to a
fourth signature.

12. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein said video signal comprises a digital video signal.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing a
video signal comprising:

a circuit configured to receive said video signal
comprising (i) a first segment having a series of frames, wherein
5 (a) each of said frames of said first segment has a first region
and a second region, and (b) said first region and said second
region of said first segment define a first signature for each of
said frames of said ~~second~~ first segment and (ii) a second segment
having a series of frames, wherein (a) each of said frames of said
10 second segment has a first region and a second region, and (b) said

first region and said second region of said second segment define a second signature for each of said frames of said second segment, wherein said circuit (i) modifies each of said first signatures of said frames of said first segment ~~from said first signature~~ to a
15 third signature and (ii) modifies each of said second signatures of said frames of said second segment ~~from said second signature~~ to a fourth signature, wherein said first segment comprises a non-commercial program.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said video signal comprises a digital video signal.